

Her Majesty's marriage with the great and good Prince Consort ; but the political union had not attained its turbulent majority when the personal one was dissolved by death. The touch of time at which the type crumbled, seemed also to leave the mark of dissolution on the antitype. The grave which had been prepared to enclose the former, only pre-figured another grave which seemed to be opening rapidly to receive the latter.

Such facts should recall gloomy memories, while they suggest the commentary that the fortunes of Canada, as exemplified in her rulers, have been wreathed more with cypress than with bays.

The Earl of Durham, who advocated a British American Confederation, and accepted a Canadian union, died five days after the Act was passed which embodied his counsels.

Lord Sydenham, who in person opened the first session of the United Parliament, was not in person permitted to close that session, for almost the last act of his ebbing life was to delegate to another the duty with which, by the gracious permission of his Sovereign, he had intended to determine his Canadian career. The sunset of that evening was the last this gifted Statesman was permitted to see. By the light of the following day the heralds might have received back again the unfolded, unworn ribbon of the Bath, and have noted in their College records that it was restored to Royalty by the representative of "The first and last Baron Sydenham."

His successor, the courtly and gifted Sir Charles Bagot, the very beau-ideal of manly grace and beauty, had scarcely entered on his government when he was stricken with mortal disease, and within fifteen months after his arrival in Canada, expired in the house in which his predecessor had died.

Sir Charles Bagot was succeeded by the benevolent and large-hearted Lord Metcalfe, whose career would have been eloquent in instruction, had it left no other lesson than the example of unswerving fortitude triumphing over mortal suffering, of the highest duty cheerfully performed in the presence of excruciating